

**Groton Trails Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**April 22, 1998**

**Location:** Legion Hall Meeting Room

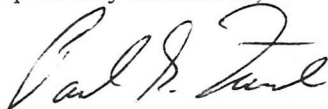
**In attendance:**

William Boston, Robert Catlin, Bruce Clements, Paul Funch, Wendy Good, John Head, Richard Lodge, Edward McNierney, Evan Owen, Stephen Prendergast, David Riggert, (Absent: Stacey Chilcoat, Douglas Furciniti, Brad Paul, Stephen Legge)

1. Ed McNierney called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
2. Ed McNierney handed out "Field Kit #1" to everyone. It contains two large maps of Groton that Ed printed out in separate 8-1/2x11 pieces for our convenience. One is the old black & white "Groton Pathways" map and the other is an integrated (from four separate maps that cover Groton) United States Geological Survey (USGS) colored map of Groton. Ed's future plans include getting the pathways information off the black and white map and transferring it to the color map.
  - a) Ed suggested that anyone could add information to a map (e.g., rough trail locations, pending developments, etc.) and that he could then scan the map back in and isolate the new information. Ed said it would be best to use a color other than black when adding new information.
  - b) Ed also solicited any feedback on what would make the maps more useful to both the people putting information on the maps and the people who might use the maps.
3. Ed moved: That the minutes of the March 18 meeting be approved.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Bob Catlin.
  - b) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
4. Bob Catlin and Dave Riggert brought the committee up-to-date on the Fitch's Bridge refurbishment proposal. The Greenway Committee submitted a grant for \$200,000 to the Montachusets Regional Authority (MRA) to rebuild the bridge for non-motorized traffic. The MRA had apparently made its decision, but it had not yet been made public. Prospects apparently look promising for receiving funding either this year or next.
5. There was a discussion of a portion of Jenkins Road that has been blocked by Al Friedrich. It was the opinion of Bob Collins (Town Counsel) that the Town of Groton had not relinquished its right-of-way and still owned one-half of the road. It was noted that Mr. Friedrich has not stopped anyone from passing through the barriers. Nevertheless, the committee felt that the boundaries should be clarified with Mr. Friedrich, and that we should be apprised of any concerns that he may have with removing the barriers from the Town's side of the road. Richard Lodge suggested that we should plan a visit and discussion with Mr. Friedrich, and Dave Riggert, Ed McNierney, and Evan Owen offered to do so.

6. Paul Funch distributed a draft of an article (for the Groton Herald) that introduces the Trails Committee and its charter, that suggests some activities that the Committee may plan, and that seeks cooperation and input from the public. Everyone was asked to read it and provide suggested revisions by the next meeting. Several committee members made some suggestions for the content of subsequent articles, including asking the public to report trails that need clearing and publishing our website URL.
7. There was a discussion related to keeping trails open on the Taisey property that is being developed.
8. There was a discussion related to Town roads and trails that might originate on Snake Hill Road (near the hospital).
9. Dave Riggert offered to ask Bob Collins about the process of locating information on town lands (deeds, maps, etc.) in the Town files. This process will then be shared with the committee.
10. Bob Catlin noted that the Town lacks by-laws that require existing trails to be kept intact when new development occurs. This is a possible avenue for the Trails Committee to pursue.
11. Ed McNierney moved: That the we send a letter to the Planning Board asking that they send the Trails Committee (the Chair) a copy of all "Request for Comment" documents that they are reviewing.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Richard Lodge.
  - b) The committee expressed its desire to participate in the review of any development (subdivisions or "ANR"s [Approval Not Required]) to provide an assessment of the potential impacts to existing and linking trails.
  - c) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
12. Ed McNierney requested that anyone having information that is related to the activities of the Trails Committee should submit the information to him so that he can put it on our website.
13. Richard Lodge moved: That the meeting be adjourned.
  - a) The motion was seconded by Paul Funch.
  - b) The motion was approved: 10 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions
  - c) The third meeting of the Trails Committee was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul G. Funch  
Secretary

5/10/98

Date

These minutes were approved on May 6, 1998:  
8 In Favor, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions